

§ 302.607 Answers to a complaint or request for determination.

(a)(1) When an air carrier or foreign air carrier files a complaint under this subpart, the owner or operator of an airport and any other air carrier or foreign air carrier serving the airport may file an answer to the complaint as provided in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section.

(2) When the owner or operator of an airport files a request for determination of the reasonableness of a fee it has imposed, any air carrier or foreign air carrier serving the airport may file an answer to the request.

(b) The answer to a complaint or request for determination shall set forth the answering party's entire response. When one or more additional complaints or a request for determination has been filed pursuant to § 302.603(b) with respect to the same airport's fee or fees, the answer shall set forth the answering party's entire response to all complaints and any such request for determination. The answer shall include a statement of position with a brief and any supporting testimony and exhibits on which the answering party intends to rely. In lieu of submitting duplicative exhibits or testimony, the answering party may incorporate by reference testimony and exhibits already filed in the same proceeding.

(c) Answers to a complaint shall be filed no later than fourteen calendar days after the filing date of the first complaint with respect to the fee or fees in dispute at a particular airport. Answers to a request for determination shall be filed no later than fourteen calendar days after the filing date of the request.

(d) All exhibits and briefs prepared on electronic spreadsheet or word processing programs should be accompanied by standard-format computer diskettes containing those submissions. Word processing and spreadsheet files must be readable by current versions of one or more of the following programs, or in such other format as may be specified by notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER: Microsoft Word, Word Perfect, Ami Pro, Microsoft Excel, Lotus, Quattro Pro, or ASCII tab-delineated files. Parties

should submit one copy of each diskette to the docket section, one copy to the office of the Chief Administrative Law Judge (M-50), and one copy to the Chief, Economic and Financial Analysis Division (X-55), of the Office of Aviation Analysis. Filers should ensure that files on the diskettes are unalterably locked.

(e) The answering party must also submit the following certifications:

(1) The answering party has served the answer, brief, and all supporting testimony and exhibits by hand, by electronic transmission, or by overnight express delivery on the carrier filing the complaint or the airport owner or operator requesting the determination;

(2) The parties served have received the answer and exhibits or will receive them no later than the filing date of the answer; and

(3) Any submission on computer diskette is a true copy of the data file used to prepare the printed versions of the exhibits or briefs.

§ 302.609 Replies.

(a) The carrier submitting a complaint may file a reply to any or all of the answers to the complaint. The airport owner or operator submitting a request for determination may file a reply to any or all of the answers to the request for determination.

(b) The reply shall be limited to new matters raised in the answers. It shall constitute the replying party's entire response to the answers. It shall be in the form of a reply brief and may include supporting testimony and exhibits responsive to new matters raised in the answers. In lieu of submitting duplicative exhibits or testimony, the replying party may incorporate by reference testimony and exhibits already filed in the same proceeding.

(c) The reply shall be filed no later than two calendar days after answers are filed.

(d) All exhibits and briefs prepared on electronic spreadsheet or word processing programs should be accompanied by standard-format computer

diskettes containing those submissions. Word processing and spreadsheets files must be readable by current versions of one or more of the following programs, or in such other format as may be specified by notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER: Microsoft Word, Word Perfect, Ami Pro, Microsoft Excel, Lotus, Quattro Pro, or ASCII tab-delineated files. Parties should submit one copy of each diskette to the docket section, one copy to the office of the Chief Administrative Law Judge (M-50), and one copy to the Chief, Economic and Financial Analysis Division, (X-55) of the Office of Aviation Analysis. Filers should ensure that files on the diskettes are unalterably locked.

(e) The carrier or airport owner or operator submitting the reply must certify that it has served the reply and all supporting testimony and exhibits on the party or parties submitting the answer to which the reply is directed and that any submission on computer diskette is a true copy of the data file used to prepare the printed versions of the exhibits or briefs.

§ 302.611 Review of complaints.

(a) Within 30 days after a complaint is filed under this subpart, the Secretary will determine whether the complaint meets the procedural requirements of this subpart and whether a significant dispute exists, and take appropriate action pursuant to paragraph (b), (c), or (d) of this section.

(b) If the Secretary determines that a significant dispute exists, he or she will issue an instituting order assigning the complaint for hearing before an administrative law judge. The instituting order will—

(1) Establish the scope of the issues to be considered and the procedures to be employed;

(2) Indicate the parties to participate in the hearing;

(3) Consolidate into a single proceeding all complaints and any request for determination with respect to the fee or fees in dispute; and

(4) Include any special provisions for exchange or disclosure of information by the parties.

(c) The Secretary will dismiss any complaint if he or she finds that no sig-

nificant dispute exists. The order dismissing the complaint will contain a concise explanation of the reasons for the determination that the dispute is not significant.

(d) If the Secretary determines that the complaint does not meet the procedural requirements of this subpart, the complaint will be dismissed without prejudice to filing a new complaint. The order of the Secretary will set forth the terms and conditions under which a revised complaint may be filed.

§ 302.613 Review of requests for determination.

(a) Except as provided in paragraph (e) of this section, within 30 days after an airport owner or operator files a request for determination of the reasonableness of a fee under this subpart, the Secretary will determine whether the request meets the procedural requirements of this subpart and whether a significant dispute exists.

(b) If the Secretary determines that a significant dispute exists, he or she will issue an instituting order assigning the request for hearing before an administrative law judge. The instituting order will establish the scope of the issues to be considered and the procedures to be employed and will indicate the parties to participate in the hearing. The instituting order will consolidate into a single proceeding all complaints and any request for determination with respect to the fee or fees in dispute.

(c) If the Secretary finds that the request for determination presents no significant dispute, the Secretary will either issue a final order as provided in § 302.621 or set forth the schedule for any additional procedures required to complete the proceeding.

(d) If the Secretary determines that the request does not meet the procedural requirements of this subpart, the request for determination will be dismissed without prejudice to filing a new request. The order of the Secretary will set forth the terms and conditions under which a revised request may be filed.

(e) When both a complaint and a request for determination have been filed with respect to the same airport fee or